

BAGGED THE SNEAK THIEVES

Detectives Lacey and Horne Recover

RING AND POCKETBOOKS FOUND

Ada Gray, Alias Cross, Colored, the Star Member of a Gang Including Her Mother—Most Important Capture in Several Years—Clever Work of the Officers.

Many houses in the section of the city north of the Capitol have been robbed in the garish light of day so boldly and successfully for months past that it became evident to Inspector Hollinsberger's detectives that a skillful snake thief was operating. The officers have tried their best to catch the thief, but without success until yesterday, when Detective Lacey succeeded, with the

Assistance of Detective Horne, in capturing Ada Gray, alias Cross, her mother, Rebecca; Kate Cross, and Ella Geary, all colored, and locked them up.

"The girl who was to be the girl who has been doing the thing, as she is known to be an unusually smart lawbreaker. Instantly it was decided that the girl should be taken to the home of Herschel Katz, reported to live at 1280 Broadway, New York City, who is a well-known attorney, as reported in 1935 Time magazine, and the possibility of his niece, Miss Nellie Crawford.

"In 1930 this money was recovered by the officers, taken from other houses, and about two years ago it was found that that money had been pilfered from various places. It was found that her confederates are regarded as the most lawless and dangerous by the detective bureau for several years.

"Detective Lawer refused several days ago to take any further action against the girl because he wanted to hunt this clever thief."

down. Yesterday afternoon Detective Harris secured a clew which promised to discover the woman, and the former was summoned from his home by telephone. The pair soon went to Mrs. Sweeney's barroom, at the corner of B and Canal streets southwest.

RECOVERED THE DIAMOND RING.

"We know that you have a diamond ring which was sold to you by Ada Gray," said the detectives to Mrs. Sweeney. "Let us have it."

The ring was soon produced and it was found that it was once stolen from the house of Miss Hainage, No. 429 B Street northeast. Having received information that the woman who was wanted had gone to Bladensburg in a surrey with several others, the officers were soon seated in a carriage, howling along in pursuit. Just as they reached Thirteenth street and Maryland avenue, however, the team in which were the hunted women was seen driving home again.

As soon as they were almost at the approaching carriage, the detectives called out to the driver to stop and jumped out. The women were at once placed under arrest, and driven to the Ninth precinct station.

Later all five women were taken to headquarters and the "accuses" were put upon them. Mrs. Pennfield, the mother of the Tremont street station, made a search of the prisoners. As Ada is believed to be the star thief of the group, she was examined first, but nothing

"Better give up the rest of that money," he said.

"I ain't got no money, Mr. Lacey. Not a cent," protested the girl.

"Now, that won't do,"

Butt, said he, "I won't do, persisted the officer. 'Ads passed you a pocketbook while you were coming here.' This was a shrewd guess.

"Bottle hand over a pocketbook containing \$100, which is all the Caywood money that could be found. There was also found another diamond ring, which is either the property of Miss Harnage, or William H. Chambers, of No. 114 South Capitol street northeast, whose house was entered about a week ago.

THIEVES' HOME UNEARTHED.

After the women were placed in cells again the detectives went to No. 5 Wouder's court south west, near B street and Garfield avenue, where the home of the thieves was unearthed. Here were found about a dozen empty pocketbooks, gold bracelets, and valuable rings, which were without doubt stolen. These are now at the detective bureau awaiting identification. While the detectives were riding toward Bladensburg to catch the thieves each corner was guarded by

According to the police, all under arrest have a very unimpressive criminal record. Ails is stated to be the one who has done all the stealing. Her mode of working was to knock at the door of a house, but never ring the bell, and if no answer was made, to break in and go upstairs to a bedroom in search of

to a bedroom in search of booty. If caught, she would ask for Mrs. Alexander, or give some such excuse with a confident air that alarmed suspicion. A description of her has been in the possession of the detectives for weeks, and they found in her home a shirt waist that exactly tallied with one she is described as having worn upon her expeditions.

had been going on for a long time, as in the present case. She was about twelve years of age then. Her sister Martha was arrested too, and both went to jail. Their career has been one of crime ever since, a brother being known as a professional house-breaker. Their mother, Rebecca, also has a bad reputation. A white man, named Henry, who has been working on the new post-office building, has been living with her. It is believed that a number of offenses can be proved against the prisoners.

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING.
George Gorman Says That Is Practically
What the Widow Downing Wants.
George H. Gorman, in a suit filed yesterday,
says Mrs. Malinda Downing, widow of the late
Robert Downing and mother of the actor, is trying
to get the property of her late husband.

On September 13 last Mrs. Dowling sued Gorman on a note for \$2,500. Gorman says he made a contract with the late Robert Dowling in April, 1888, to buy Dowling's property, half mile from Beuning's, on the Ridge road, and pay \$5,000 for it. The payment was to consist of Gorman's residence at No. 10 Twelfth street, valued at \$2,000, but bearing a \$3,000 trust, together with the balance in cash.

German sold the property to Susan A. Ruffin subject to the trusts. Without his knowledge the time for the payment of the Downing note was extended for Mrs. Ruffin to May 1, 1994, and even since that date German says that Mrs. Downing has neglected to enforce the trust. The reason is clear.

On May 24 the property was sold to satisfy a prior mortgage, and Mrs. Downing bought it for \$2,800. German says the reason she bought

Mr. Downing says the property is worth \$9,500, and Mrs. Downing has made \$3,000 on the purchase. German accordingly calculates that Mrs. Downing has got in the trade just \$,000 for the Downing's place, and as that is just \$1,000 more than he offered to give he therefore asks for an injunction to prevent Mrs. Downing's collection of the note and that the note be cancelled.

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Watch Contest Closing.

The Times' annual contest for

The Times coupon contest for the most popular member of the police force will close at 12 o'clock noon on Monday next, October 1, and no coupons will be received after that hour.

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Crimes and Casualties.

Grave robbers have been operating in the cemeteries near Union Hill, N. Y.

Const. Elisha C. Thompson, who is at

North German Lloyd steamer *Lahn* collided on the Lague with the bark *Magdalen*, the latter being abandoned, the crew being saved.

Save the pieces.
The 10 and 25 cent pieces, by buying James F. Oyster's 5-pound boxes, creamery butter, at \$1.50. 900 Pennsylvania avenue.